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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/749,037

12/29/2003

Rajagopal Baskaran

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09/21/2006

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EXAMINER

CABUCOS, MARIE G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,037

Applicant(s)

BASKARAN ET AL.

Examiner

Marie Antoinette Cabucos

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Baisley et al (US Patent no. 6,415,299).

Regarding claims 1, 9 and 17, Baisley discloses a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, comprising receiving metadata associated with a first version of the database object and a second version of the database object; comparing metadata associated with the first version of the database object with metadata associated with the second version of the database object to create a difference report; and creating an action plan from the difference report that specifies how to merge metadata associated with the first version of the database object with metadata associated with the second version of the database object (col. 2, lines 10-27).

Regarding claims 2, 10 and 18, Baisley discloses a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein metadata associated with the first version and the second version of the database object are represented in Unified Modeling Language (col. 3, lines 64-67; col. 4, lines 1-6).

Regarding claims 3, 4, 11, 12, 19 and 20, Baisley discloses in figure 3 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein comparing metadata associated with the first version and second version of the database object involves customizing which associations to compare (col. 5, table I); and customizing how to compare the first metadata and the second metadata (col. 6, table II).

Regarding claims 5, 6, 13, 15, 21 and 22, Baisley discloses in figures 5A-5D a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein creating the action plan from the difference report involves allowing a user to select which actions to take in merging metadata in order to produce merged metadata with desired properties and attributes; and involves examining the difference report to determine what actions to take in bringing metadata associated with the first version and second versions of the database object into agreement.

Regarding claims 7, 15 and 23, Baisley discloses a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein metadata associated with first and second versions of the metadata object can define database objects, wherein database objects include tables, columns, dimensions, cube, views, materialized views, and external tables (col. 2, lines 66-67; col. 3, lines 1-19).

Regarding claims 8, 16 and 24, Baisley discloses a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein the action plan can specify a number of actions including creating, updating, and deleting database objects, and their properties (col. 4, lines 32-34).

Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art of record to Michel K. Bowman-Amuah (US Patent no. 6,256,773) discloses a system, method and article of manufacture for configuration management in a development architecture framework.

Prior art of record to Midgley et al (US Patent no. 6,460,055) discloses a systems and methods for backing up data files.

Prior art of record to Kristen J. Webb (US Patent no. 6,675,177) discloses a method and system for backing up digital data.

Prior art of record to Midgley et al (US Patent no. 6,704,755) discloses a systems and methods for backing up data files.

Prior art of record to Gindele et al (US Patent no. 6,785,421) discloses analyzing images to determine if one or more set of materials correspond to the analyzed images.

Inquiry

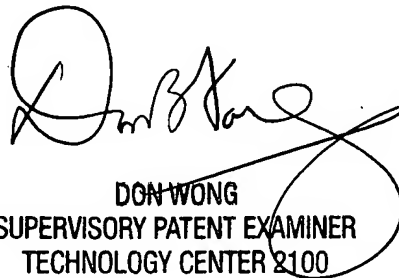
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marie Antoinette Cabucos whose telephone number is 571-272-8582. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don K. Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2163

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Marie Antoinette Cabucos
Examiner
Art Unit 2163



DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100